Cargo & luggage

Take notice of the following information about stowage precautions, cargo capacity and load.

When stowing cargo and luggage in the vehicle, observe the following precautions:

- Put cargo and luggage in the trunk when at all possible. Be sure all items are secured in place.
- Be careful to keep the vehicle level. Placing the weight as far forward as possible helps maintain vehicle balance.
- For better fuel economy, do not carry unnecessary weight.

Capacity and distribution

Cargo capacity depends on the total weight of the occupants.

(Cargo capacity) = (Total load capacity) – (Total weight of occupants)

Steps for Determining Correct Load Limit—

(1) Locate the statement "The combined weight of occupants and cargo should never exceed XXX kg or XXX lbs." on your vehicle's placard.

(2) Determine the combined weight of the driver and passengers that will be riding in your vehicle.

(3) Subtract the combined weight of the driver and passengers from XXX kg or XXX lbs.

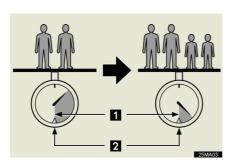
(4) The resulting figure equals the available amount of cargo and luggage load capacity.

For example, if the "XXX" amount equals 1400lbs. and there will be five 150lb passengers in your vehicle, the amount of available cargo and luggage load capacity is 650 lbs. (1400 – 750 (5 × 150) = 650 lbs.)

(5) Determine the combined weight of luggage and cargo being loaded on the vehicle. That weight may not safely exceed the available cargo and luggage load capacity calculated in Step 4.

(6) If your vehicle will be towing a trailer, load from your trailer will be transferred to your vehicle. Consult this manual to determine how this reduces the available cargo and luggage load capacity of your vehicle.

Do not tow a trailer with this vehicle. It is not designed for trailer towing.

Example on your vehicle

1 Cargo capacity

2 Total load capacity

When 2 people with the combined weight of 366 lb. (166 kg) are riding in your vehicle, which has a total load capacity of 645 lb. (295 kg), the available amount of cargo and luggage load capacity will be as follows:

645 lb. – 366 lb. = 279 lb. (295 kg – 166 kg = 129 kg)

In this condition, if 2 more passengers with the combined weight of 258 lb. (117 kg) get on, the available cargo and luggage load will be reduced as follows:

279 lb. – 258 lb. = 21 lb. (129 kg – 117 kg = 12 kg)

As shown in the above example, if the number of occupants increases, the cargo and luggage load equaling the combined weight of the occupants who got on later, by an amount. In other words, if an increase in the number of occupants causes an excess of the total load capacity (combined weight of occupants plus cargo and luggage load), you must reduce the cargo and luggage on your vehicle. (→P.148)

⚠ CAUTION

■ Storage precautions

Observe the following precautions.

Failing to do so may result in death or serious injury.

- Do not place cargo or luggage in or on the following locations as the item may get under the clutch, brake or accelerator pedal and prevent the pedals from being depressed properly, block the driver's vision, or hit the driver or passengers, causing an accident.
  - Driver's feet
  - Front passenger or rear seats (when stacking items)
  - Package tray
  - Instrument panel
  - Dashboard
- Secure all items in the occupant compartment, as they may shift and injure someone during sudden braking, sudden swerving or an accident.

■ Weight of the load

- Improper loading may cause deterioration of steering or braking control which may cause death or serious injury.
- Do not exceed the maximum axle weight rating or the total vehicle weight rating.
- Even if the total load of occupant's weight and the cargo load is less than the total load capacity, do not apply the load unevenly.

Vehicle load limits

Vehicle load limits include total load capacity, seating capacity, towing capacity and cargo capacity.

Total load capacity: 645 lb. (295 kg)

Total load capacity means the combined weight of occupants, cargo and luggage.

Seating capacity: Total 4 (Front 2, Rear 2)

Seating capacity means the maximum number of occupants whose estimated average weight is 150 lb. (68 kg) per person.

Even if the number of occupants are within the seating capacity, do not exceed the total load capacity.

Towing capacity

Do not tow a trailer with this vehicle. It is not designed for a trailer towing.

Cargo capacity

Cargo capacity may increase or decrease depending on the weight and the number of occupants. (→P.145)

Total load capacity and seating capacity

These are also described on the tire and loading information label. (→P.251)

CAUTION

Overload

Do not apply excess load.

It may cause not only damage to the tires, but also deterioration of steering ability and braking ability, resulting in an accident.

Winter driving tips

Carry out the necessary preparations and inspections before driving the vehicle in winter. Always drive the vehicle in a manner appropriate for the prevailing weather and roadway conditions.

Pre-winter preparations

- Use fluids that are appropriate to the prevailing outside temperatures.
  - Engine oil
  - Engine coolant
  - Washer fluid
- Inspect the level and specific gravity of battery electrolyte.
- Have the vehicle fitted with four snow tires or purchase a set of tire chains for rear tires.

Ensure that all tires are the same size and brand, and that chains match the size of the tires.

Before driving the vehicle

Perform the following steps according to driving conditions.

- Do not forcibly try to open a window or move a wiper that has frozen. Pour some warm water over the frozen area to melt the ice. Wipe away the water immediately to prevent it from freezing.
- To ensure proper operation of the climate control system fan, remove any snow that has accumulated on the air inlet vents in front of the windshield.
- Remove any ice that has accumulated on the vehicle chassis.
- Periodically check for and remove any excess ice or snow that may accumulate in the wheel well or on the brakes.

■ **When driving the vehicle**

Accelerate the vehicle slowly and drive at a reduced speed suitable to road conditions.

■ **When parking the vehicle**

The parking brake may freeze up, preventing it from being released. Place the shift lever in P and park the vehicle without applying the parking brake.

Regulations on the use of snow chains

- Regulations regarding the use of tire chains vary according to location and type of road. Always check local regulations before installing chains.
- Use SAE Class "S" type radial tire chains, with the exception of radial cable chains or V-bar type chains.
  - Install the chains on the rear tires.
  - Refer to the explanation that comes with the tire chains for installation instructions.
- Retighten chains after driving 1/4 - 1/2 mile (0.5 - 1.0 km).

Tire chain installation

Observe the following installation, removal and care precautions.

- Install and remove tire chains in a safe location.
- Install tire chains on the rear tires only. Do not install tire chains on front tires.
- Install the tire chains on rear tires as tightly as possible. Retighten chains after driving 1/4 - 1/2 mile (0.5 - 1.0 km)
- Install tire chains following the instructions provided with the chains.

If the chains are installed

The tire pressure warning system may not operate properly.

CAUTION

Driving with snow tires

Observe the following precautions to reduce the risk of accidents.

Failing to do so may result in a loss of vehicle control and cause death or serious injury.

- Use tires of the specified size.
- Maintain the recommended level of air pressure.
- Do not drive in excess of 75 mph (120 km/h), regardless of the type of snow tires being used.
- Use snow tires on all, not just some wheels.

CAUTION

■Driving with tire chains

Observe the following precautions to reduce the risk of accidents.

Failing to do so may result in the vehicle being unable to be driven safely and a possible accident which may cause death or serious injury.

- Do not drive in excess of the speed limit specified for the tire chains being used, or 30 mph (50 km/h), whichever is lower.
- Avoid driving on bumpy road surfaces or through potholes.
- Avoid sudden turns and braking, as use of chains may adversely affect vehicle handling.
- Slow down sufficiently before entering a curve to ensure that vehicle control is maintained.

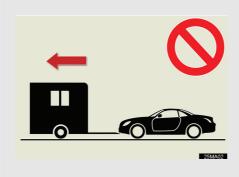
Trailer towing

Do not tow a trailer with this vehicle.
Do not install a tow hitch or use a tow hitch carrier for a wheelchair, scooter, bicycle, etc. Your Lexus is not designed for trailer towing or for the use of tow hitch mounted carries.

Lexus warranties do not apply to damage or malfunction caused by towing a trailer or hitch mounted carries.

Dinghy towing

Your vehicle is not designed to be dinghy towed (with four wheels on the ground) behind a motor home.

Lexus warranties do not apply to damage caused by dinghy towing.

To avoid serious damage to your vehicle

Do not tow your vehicle with four wheels on the ground.